



# THE SCC TIMES

Dear SCC Family,

As we start this semester, let's remember our theme for 2024: *Loving one another*.

The Apostle John roots Christian experience and action in the wonderful truth that "God is love" (1 John 4:8) ... but what does that mean? To say, "God is love" doesn't mean that He'll give me whatever I want; or that things will always work out for me; or that suffering & sickness will avoid me – *which is what we often want it to mean!* "To say that God is love is to say that God eternally gives of Himself to others ... His love is His self-giving for the benefit of others" (Wayne Grudem).

God made His love visible by sending His one and only Son (1 John 4:9-10) – Jesus Christ. God's love is to give Himself to bring us to life, by sending His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Jesus' sacrificial death atoned for all the damage and destruction caused by sin. The cross of Christ is God's definitive declaration of His love for us!

Which is a great encouragement – it means God's love doesn't change, it's not fickle, it's not stronger one day than another, it's not dependant on our mood or our circumstances – nothing can change the love He demonstrated for us at the cross. It should bring us great joy when we realise that God gives Himself to us in order to bring us to true life. He doesn't hold anything back from us – He gave us His Son! And it should give us great assurance when we look to the cross and remember that God loves us!

Of course, If God is love and we're in Him, then His love should be visible through us – "**Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God**" (1 John 4:7). When His love shines through us, it's evidence of our regeneration and demonstrates the family likeness. It's worth saying that the love we make visible is not the touchy-feely, warm sentiment that many mistake for love ... it's the same love God makes visible; the sacrificial, self-giving love of the Son. It's to love in such a way that we emulate Jesus and point others to Him ... *indeed, to love without Jesus is not love!*

God's love demands that we *love one another* ... that we have gospel dominated and gospel saturated relationships – reminding each other what He did for us and treating each other with the grace and mercy with which He treated us! So, let us love one another: giving each other time – sharing our lives despite the busy-ness of life ... telling each other the truth – speaking the Word of Christ to one another ... and giving each other encouragement and support – serving each other in kindness, building the body into maturity. Let's ensure that at SCC we're making visible the truth that our God IS love! May God help us to love each other as He loves us.

Yours in Him  
Luke

## BIRTHDAYS in AUGUST Edition 12

**1 August:** Amanda Le Roux  
**7 August:** Bruce Heyns  
**7 August:** Kerry Malan  
**7 August:** Kim Gorgulho  
**11 August:** Kaboentle Tholo  
**12 August:** Charleen Grobelaar  
**14 August:** Elizabeth Lombard  
**14 August:** Lindsay Heyns  
**16 August:** Lenny Gorgulho  
**17 August:** Milla Morris  
**19 August:** Olivia Gloyne  
**20 August:** Janine Heyns  
**21 August:** Dianne Kennedy  
**21 August:** Max Volpi  
**21 August:** Emily James  
**27 August:** Laura-Anne Kohler  
**28 August:** Alison Simpson  
**28 August:** Ailsa Williamson

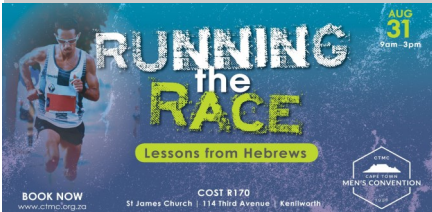




## UPCOMING Dates for your Diary

- 03 August** - Kids Ministry Toolbox
- 04 August** - SCC Hike - Contact Debra Lumby - 072 016 5511
- 05 August** - Service Leaders Meeting (Tbc)
- 11 August** - Kids Leaders (Gr R-6) Meeting
- 24 August** - REACH Women's Convention at St James
- 25 August** - Teen Leaders (Gr 7-12) Meeting
- 26 August** - Community Group Leaders Meeting
- 27-29 August** - REACH Synod (CCM, Gauteng)
- 31 August** - REACH Men's Convention at St James
- 31 August** - Ladies Afternoon Tea
- 02 September** - Council Meeting

*“Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law ” Romans 13:8*



### BOOK NOW

**Join us for the 2024 Ladies Convention**

*“Ready and Waiting”*

Saturday, 24 August 2024 | 08:45 to 12:15

**Join us for the 2024 Men's Convention**

*“Running the Race”*

Saturday, 31 August 2024 | 09:00 to 15:00

### SCC Donates Goods to Red Cross in Wynberg

On 11 July, the Western Cape was hit by a severe storm, which left many people vulnerable and destitute.

The SCC congregation donated blankets, clothing and non-perishable food and we dropped all the goodies off at Red Cross on the 16th of July.

Red Cross were so grateful for all the generous donations.



*"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up".*

*Galatians 6:9*

#### PRAY FOR:

- Please pray for a team from Emmanuel Church that will soon be in Chiang Mai. They will start serving at the SIM conference by providing child-care, and will then spend a week at The Centre. During their time at The Centre they will help run an English Camp. Please pray for students to sign up. It's going to be a busy time for the team. Please pray for them, that they will serve well together and also for stamina and good health during their time here.
- Pray for new students who have been visiting The Centre. Pray that they will feel at home at The Centre and continuing joining activities, and that as they do, we'll have opportunities to model God's love to them and share about Jesus.
- Praise God for His provision for my full-time language study starting in November.
- Please pray for me as I continue to plan my time back home. Please pray that there will be a good balance between sharing about Thailand, and also some time of rest.
- Please pray for God to raise up more people to serve at The Centre. We have lost a few people over the course of the past year.

## NEWS From Our Mission Partner: Michéle Roux

I've landed in SA and looking forward to seeing you all at SCC this Sunday.

### *Trusting God with relationships*

When I arrived in Thailand, I'm not a hundred percent sure what I expected ministry to look like, but I think because it's an open country I expected to see more fruit more quickly. As I poured a lot of time and energy into relationships with various people, I realised that I expected to see certain changes. As you can imagine, I've had to learn a couple of important lessons along the way. God works in His own time and in His own way, I cannot dictate what the fruit of my labours will look like. I've also needed the reminder that it's



not just about seeing others grow, but making sure that in the process of serving, I too am growing to love Jesus more. As much as I've had to learn to trust God with where He has me, I've had to grow in trusting Him with what He's doing while He has me here. I may not know how God can use the seeds planted in the hours spent with people I no longer see, but that's okay because I do know that He is a faithful God and He'll continue to be at work according to His plan.

While there have been relationships over the past year and a half that have been discouraging (from my perspective), there are many others that have been such a joy. One such example is K, the new Thai staff worker who started at The Centre in February. We meet twice a week, once to help her practice English and the other to read the Bible together. K understands ministry and has a heart to see the students come to know Jesus. As we chat through cultural and language differences, a beautiful friendship is growing, and I am so grateful to God. I'm also ashamed of my mopey attitude that often doesn't acknowledge times like these with K for the joy that they are. B is another great encouragement. I first met B a year ago through another friend and didn't see her again until K started working at TC (they know each other). It has been lovely to reconnect with her. B also has a heart to see students come to know God through His word. This coming Tuesday, B will be starting a regular Bible study at The Centre with one of her other friends. It will be run in Thai and will be aimed at seekers. This is a wonderful answer to prayer and is also an example of how God is working things out in His way, in His time. I am so excited for this Bible study to be starting but would never have guessed that B would be the one to help run it, or that it would be starting now. Isn't it good that God isn't working according to my expectations!



### *The next season's taking shape*

Future plans have begun taking shape. God provided the finances that were needed to sign up for full-time language study! I'm so grateful for those whom God has used to make this possible, and I praise God for His provision. I have registered with Lana Language School, and started the application for various paperwork that will be needed when I apply for a new Language Visa from South Africa.

I'm excited for this new season and the changes it will bring, but I'm also trying not to jump the gun and get too carried away with the future. There is still plenty to enjoy in this season, even if it is drawing to a close. The next few weeks hold many exciting opportunities with new students who have started coming to The Centre. There is the short-term team and English Camp, I also still have classes and therefore opportunities for conversations with students I've been teaching. And of course, I am really looking forward to my time at home and the opportunity to catch up with many of you, and to share in person of what God is doing here in Thailand.



With love in Christ, Michéle

## GETTING TO KNOW our SCC Family SPOTLIGHT on BRUCE HEYNS

### TELL US A BIT ABOUT YOUR FAMILY

I'm married to Janine. We met at university and have been married for 25 years. Daughter's Lindsay and Ingrid. Both are out of school and currently studying for University degrees.

### TELL US ABOUT YOUR CAREER ?

I am a Chartered Accountant and own an accounting practice Oakridge Consulting which is based locally. We do the usual boring, albeit essential, account stuff like outsourced accounting, tax, financial statements .

### WHAT DO YOU DO IN YOUR SPARE TIME, ANY HOBBIES OR INTERESTS?

I enjoy cycling (mainly mountain biking) and more recently running, albeit at a very basic level. Cycling has allowed me to connect with nature and also find out about corners of the country I never thought I'd see. I love to travel as well although I can't really consider it a hobby. We lived in the UK for 8 years and through that discovered various parts of Europe, especially France.

### WHAT MINISTRY ARE YOU INVOLVED IN AT SCC?

I'm currently on the Church council and I also teach teens. I also attend one of the men's community groups on a weekly basis (PS there is space for you men out there to join even if it's to try it out – speak to me).

### TELL US BRIEFLY HOW YOU BECAME A CHRISTIAN?

I grew up in a Christian home and attended church all my life. Although I wouldn't have described myself as a committed Christian in my youth I was very respectful of the Christian faith. I became a committed Christian as a student. It's going to sound strange and I hope that I'm going to explain this properly but I had some sort of vision/ epiphany when I was a student that if I didn't commit my life to God then I'd go off the rails in some way or form. It was vivid and real and I decided there and then that my path is to follow Jesus. So far so good!

### WHAT MUSIC DO YOU ENJOY LISTENING TO?

Billy Joel, U2, Coldplay. My daughter Ingrid has given up on trying to convert me to Taylor Swift...

### TELL US ABOUT AN EMBARRASSING MOMENT

Some things are best left unsaid...

### WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE FOOD?

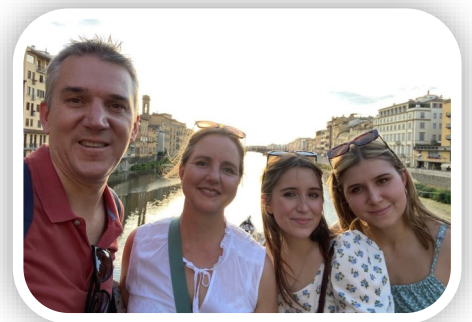
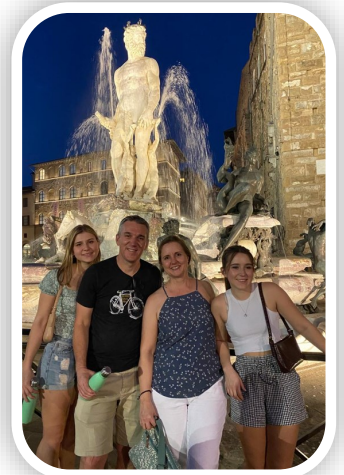
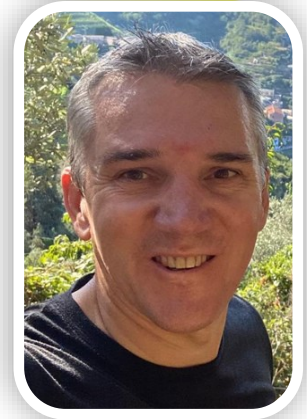
Nothing beats good Italian food – Tuscan steak, Risotto, the list goes on.

### ANY PET HATES?

I can get a bit impatient if I have to wait for something...

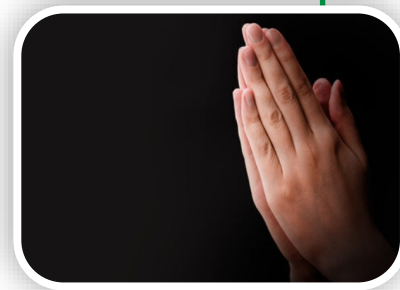
### WHAT'S YOUR DREAM HOLIDAY DESTINATION?

Italy – the culture, the unique coastline, the history, the food.



## MATTERS for Prayer

- Give thanks for the recent joint Holiday Club with TCC held during the school holidays... for the well organized programme, for the many leaders who served and others who supported in different ways and for the many children who attended. Pray that the gospel seeds sown will reap a rich harvest for the Kingdom.
- Pray for Michele Roux as she returns to SA for 'Home Assignment' ...for a time of rest and refreshment, but also for a time of warm relationships as she reconnects with her with her church partners and supporters within SA.
- That SCC will be committed to making mature disciples of Jesus in an ever increasing number who love God, who love people and who love the Bible...that transparent meaningful relationships will become normal among us and remaining anonymous strange...that a hunger for studying the Bible will form among our people so that we can guide and guard one another in it.
- Pray for the necessary resources to enable our ongoing ministries, partnerships and future gospel growth within our community



*“Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honour one another above yourselves”. Romans 12:9 - 10*

## CHURCH Finances

We are so grateful to God for your ongoing partnership as you give regularly towards our operating expenses, mission partnerships and special projects (both at SCC & further afield). Here’s an update of our current financial situation:

	Income	Expenditure *	Surplus / (Deficit)
Jan to May 2024	768,014	(726,875)	41,139
June 2024	141,808	(152,595)	(10,787)
<b>Year to date</b>	<b>909,822</b>	<b>(879,470)</b>	<b>30,352</b>

\* our monthly anticipated expenditure is R157,500.00

**Please use the following ways to support gospel work in partnership with us.**

### Via EFT



Southern Cross Church  
072104791  
Standard Bank (025609)  
Please reference deposits  
(e.g.: offerings, buildings, missions, etc.)

### Via SNAPSCAN



**Snap here to pay**